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To: Insurance

HOUSE BILL NO. 885  
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE HEALTH INSURANCE POLICIES TO PROVIDE  
2 COVERAGE FOR AUTISM-RELATED TREATMENT; TO PROVIDE FOR THE  
3 LICENSURE AND REGULATION OF THE PRACTICE OF APPLIED BEHAVIOR  
4 ANALYSIS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

6 **SECTION 1.** (1) Except as otherwise provided herein, a  
7 health insurance policy shall provide coverage for the screening,  
8 diagnosis, and treatment of autism spectrum disorder. To the  
9 extent that the screening, diagnosis, and treatment of autism  
10 spectrum disorder are not already covered by a health insurance  
11 policy, coverage under this section will be included in health  
12 insurance policies that are delivered, executed, issued, amended,  
13 adjusted, or renewed in this state, or outside this state if  
14 insuring residents of this state, on or after January 1, 2016. No  
15 insurer can terminate coverage, or refuse to deliver, execute,  
16 issue, amend, adjust, or renew coverage to an individual solely  
17 because the individual is diagnosed with or has received treatment  
18 for an autism spectrum disorder.



19           (2) Coverage under this section must not be subject to  
20 dollar limits, deductibles, or coinsurance provisions that are  
21 less favorable to an insured than the dollar limits, deductibles,  
22 or coinsurance provisions that apply to substantially all medical  
23 and surgical benefits under the health insurance policy, except as  
24 otherwise provided in subsection (5) of this section.

25           (3) This section shall not be construed as limiting benefits  
26 that are otherwise available to an individual under a health  
27 insurance policy.

28           (4) As used in this section:

29                   (a) "Applied behavior analysis" means the  
30 individualized design, implementation, and evaluation of  
31 instructional and environmental modifications to produce socially  
32 significant improvement in human behavior, including the use of  
33 direct observation, measurement, and functional analysis of the  
34 relationship between environment and behavior.

35                   (b) "Autism spectrum disorder" means any of the  
36 pervasive developmental disorders or autism spectrum disorders as  
37 defined by the most recent edition of the Diagnostic and  
38 Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM) or the edition that  
39 was in effect at the time of diagnosis.

40                   (c) "Behavioral health treatment" means behavior  
41 modification and mental health counseling and treatment programs,  
42 including applied behavior analysis, that are:



43 (i) Necessary to develop or restore, to the  
44 maximum extent practicable, the functioning of an individual; and

45 (ii) Provided or supervised by a licensed behavior  
46 mental health professional, so long as the services performed are  
47 commensurate with the licensed mental health professional's  
48 competency area, training and supervised experience.

49 (d) "Diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder" means  
50 medically necessary assessment, evaluations, or tests to diagnose  
51 whether an individual has an autism spectrum disorder, as  
52 performed by a licensed psychologist or licensed physician.

53 (e) "Licensed behavior analyst" means a professional  
54 licensed under Section 8(d) of this act to practice applied  
55 behavior analysis in the State of Mississippi.

56 (f) "Health insurance policy" includes all individual  
57 and group health insurance policies providing coverage on an  
58 expense-incurred basis, individual and group service or indemnity  
59 type contracts issued by a nonprofit corporation, individual and  
60 group service contracts issued by a health maintenance  
61 organization or preferred provider organization, all self-insured  
62 group arrangements to the extent not preempted by federal law, all  
63 plans for state and political subdivisions and all managed health  
64 care delivery entities of any type or description providing  
65 coverage to any resident of this state.

66 (g) "Pharmacy care" means medications approved by the  
67 United States Food and Drug Administration and prescribed by a



68 licensed physician, and any health-related services deemed  
69 medically necessary to determine the need or effectiveness of the  
70 medications.

71 (h) "Psychiatric care" means direct or consultative  
72 services provided by a psychiatrist licensed to practice in the  
73 State of Mississippi or as provided under the applicable health  
74 insurance policy.

75 (i) "Psychological care" means direct or consultative  
76 services provided by a psychologist licensed to practice in the  
77 State of Mississippi or as provided under the applicable health  
78 insurance policy.

79 (j) "Therapeutic care" means services provided by  
80 licensed speech-language pathologists, occupational therapists, or  
81 physical therapists as covered by the health insurance policy.

82 (k) "Treatment for autism spectrum disorder" means  
83 evidence-based care prescribed or ordered for an individual  
84 diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder by a licensed physician  
85 or a licensed psychologist who determines the care to be medically  
86 necessary, including, but not limited to:

- 87 (i) Behavioral health treatment;
- 88 (ii) Pharmacy care;
- 89 (iii) Psychiatric care;
- 90 (iv) Psychological care; and
- 91 (v) Therapeutic care.



92           (1) "Treatment plan" means a written, comprehensive,  
93 and individualized intervention plan that incorporates specific  
94 treatment goals, individualized with objectives, data collection  
95 and analysis plan, and goal change procedures if goals are not  
96 met.

97           (5) Coverage under this section for applied behavior  
98 analysis shall be limited to twenty-five (25) hours per week, and  
99 shall not be required beyond the age of eight (8) years. No more  
100 than ten (10) hours per week shall be for the services of a  
101 licensed behavior analyst; however, all services must be provided  
102 under the supervision or direction of a licensed behavior analyst  
103 or licensed psychologist. Coverage for applied behavior analysis  
104 pursuant to an ongoing treatment plan may be extended beyond the  
105 limits provided in this subsection if medical necessity for the  
106 extension is determined to exist, or in the event of disagreement,  
107 the appeal rights under the applicable health insurance policy  
108 shall govern.

109           (6) Except for inpatient services, if an insured is  
110 receiving treatment for an autism spectrum disorder, an insurer  
111 shall have the right to review the treatment plan every six (6)  
112 months, unless the insurer and the insured's treating physician or  
113 psychologist agree that a more frequent review is necessary. The  
114 cost of obtaining any review of the treatment plan shall be borne  
115 by the insurer.



116 (7) This section shall not be construed to require an  
117 insurer to provide coverage for any services to an individual  
118 under an individualized family service plan, an individualized  
119 education program, or an individualized service plan, required by  
120 federal or state law to be performed by public schools, including,  
121 but not limited to, individualized education programs, special  
122 education services, Individuals with Disabilities Education  
123 Improvement Act programs, attention deficit-hyperactivity disorder  
124 classrooms, or autism spectrum disorder classrooms.

125 (8) Nothing in this section shall apply to nongrandfathered  
126 plans in the individual and small group markets that are required  
127 to include essential health benefits under the Patient Protection  
128 and Affordable Care Act or to Medicare supplement, accident-only,  
129 specified disease, hospital indemnity, disability income,  
130 long-term care, or other limited benefit hospital insurance  
131 policies.

132 (9) A small employer with one hundred (100) or fewer  
133 eligible employees that provides or offers a health insurance  
134 policy to its employees will offer coverage for the screening,  
135 diagnosis and treatment of autism spectrum disorder as provided in  
136 this section. The small employer may charge the plan participant  
137 with the cost of obtaining the additional coverage.

138 (10) In the event that any part of this legislation is  
139 rendered or declared invalid or unenforceable by a court of  
140 competent jurisdiction, such invalidation shall not invalidate the



141 remaining portions thereof, and they shall remain in full force  
142 and effect.

143       **SECTION 2. License required.** In order to safeguard life,  
144 health and property, no person shall practice applied behavior  
145 analysis in this state, or use the title "Licensed Behavior  
146 Analyst" or "Licensed Assistant Behavior Analyst," unless such  
147 person has secured a license under this chapter.

148       **SECTION 3. Definitions.** The following definitions apply as  
149 used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

150           (a) "Board" means the Mississippi Autism Board.

151           (b) "Person" means any individual, organization or  
152 corporate body, except that only an individual may be licensed  
153 under this chapter.

154           (c) "Practice of applied behavior analysis" means  
155 interventions based on scientific research and the direct  
156 observation and measurement of behavior and the environment.  
157 Behavior analysts utilize contextual factors, motivating  
158 operations, antecedent stimuli, positive reinforcement, and other  
159 consequences to help people develop new behaviors, increase or  
160 decrease existing behaviors, and emit behaviors under specific  
161 environmental conditions. The practice of behavior analysis  
162 expressly excludes psychological testing, diagnosis of a mental or  
163 physical disorder, neuropsychology, psychotherapy, cognitive  
164 therapy, sex therapy, psychoanalysis, hypnotherapy, and long-term  
165 counseling as treatment modalities.



166 (d) "Licensed behavior analyst" means an individual  
167 currently certified by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board as  
168 a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) or Board Certified  
169 Behavior Analyst-Doctoral (BCBA-D) and licensed under Section 8(d)  
170 of this act to practice applied behavior analysis.

171 (e) "Licensed assistant behavior analyst" means an  
172 individual currently certified by the Behavior Analyst  
173 Certification Board as a Board Certified Assistant Behavior  
174 Analyst (BCABA) and licensed pursuant to Section 8(e) of this act  
175 to practice applied behavior analysis under the supervision of a  
176 licensed behavior analyst.

177 (f) "Behavior technician" means an individual currently  
178 certified by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board as a  
179 Registered Behavior Technician (RBT) to provide applied behavior  
180 analysis treatments under the supervision and direction of a  
181 licensed behavior analyst or licensed assistant behavior analyst.

182 **SECTION 4. Scope of chapter.** (1) Nothing in this chapter  
183 shall be construed as preventing or restricting the practice of  
184 any of the following:

185 (a) A licensed psychologist, subject to any rules or  
186 regulations of the Mississippi Board of Psychology;

187 (b) Other licensed health care professionals authorized  
188 to practice in the state, so long as the services of the  
189 professional are commensurate with the professional's demonstrated





190 competence and training and within the scope of practice regulated  
191 by the professional's licensing authority;

192 (c) A behavior technician who implements certain  
193 applied behavior analysis procedures under the extended authority  
194 and direction of a licensed behavior analyst or licensed assistant  
195 behavior analyst, provided that the behavior technician is  
196 supervised in accordance with the Behavior Analyst Certification  
197 Board's supervision standards;

198 (d) A family member or guardian of a recipient of  
199 applied behavior analysis services who implements certain applied  
200 behavior analysis procedures in compliance with the training and  
201 direction of a licensed behavior analyst or licensed psychologist;

202 (e) A behavior analyst who practices with nonhumans,  
203 including applied animal behaviorists and animal trainers;

204 (f) An individual who is pursuing supervised  
205 experiential training to meet eligibility requirements for  
206 Behavior Analyst Certification Board certification, provided that  
207 such training is supervised by a licensed behavior analyst and who  
208 meet Behavior Analyst Certification Board supervisor requirements,  
209 and that the supervised experience is conducted in accordance with  
210 other Behavior Analyst Certification Board standards and  
211 requirements;

212 (g) An individual who teaches behavior analysis or  
213 conducts behavior analytic research, provided that such teaching



214 or research does not involve the delivery of direct behavior  
215 analytic services;

216 (h) A professional behavior analyst who provides  
217 general behavior analytic services to organizations, so long as  
218 those services are for the benefit of the organizations and do not  
219 involve direct services to individuals;

220 (i) A matriculated college or university student whose  
221 applied behavior analysis activities are part of a defined course,  
222 internship, practicum, or program of study and are supervised by a  
223 licensed behavior analyst or an instructor in a Behavior Analyst  
224 Certification Board-approved course sequence or practicum.

225 Students and interns must not represent themselves as professional  
226 behavior analysts but must use titles that clearly indicate their  
227 trainee status, such as "student," "intern," or "trainee"; and

228 (j) Individuals employed by a school board while  
229 performing the regular duties of their office or position. Such  
230 individuals shall not represent themselves as professional  
231 behavior analysts unless they are licensed behavior analysts or  
232 licensed assistant behavior analysts, and shall not offer behavior  
233 analytic services to any persons or entities other than their  
234 school employer or accept remuneration for providing behavior  
235 analytic services other than the remuneration they receive from  
236 their school employer.

237 (2) Subsection (1) of this section shall not be interpreted  
238 to expand the scope of practice of any licensed professional who



239 is not licensed pursuant to this chapter; no individual described  
240 in subsection (1) may provide applied behavior analysis treatment  
241 outside the scope of their licensed practice.

242 **SECTION 5. Mississippi Autism Board; membership; term of**  
243 **office; appointment; qualifications.** (1) The board shall consist  
244 of five (5) members. The Governor shall appoint one (1) licensed  
245 psychologist practicing in the area of applied behavior analysis,  
246 one (1) licensed behavior analyst, and one (1) public member who  
247 is not licensed in behavior analysis and who is the family member  
248 of a recipient of applied behavior analysis services. The  
249 Lieutenant Governor shall appoint two (2) licensed behavior  
250 analysts.

251 (2) The licensed psychologist member shall serve an initial  
252 term of one (1) year, the licensed behavior analyst appointed by  
253 the Governor shall serve an initial term of two (2) years, the  
254 public member shall serve an initial term of three (3) years, and  
255 the two (2) licensed behavior analysts appointed by the Lieutenant  
256 Governor shall serve initial terms of four (4) years. All  
257 subsequent appointees shall serve four-year terms.

258 (3) All appointees shall serve at the will and pleasure of  
259 the appointing official.

260 (4) Each board member shall serve without compensation, but  
261 shall receive actual traveling and incidental expenses necessarily  
262 incurred while engaged in the discharge of official duties.



263           **SECTION 6. Authority of the board.** (1) The board shall  
264 annually elect from its membership a chairman and executive  
265 secretary at a meeting held during the last two (2) quarters of  
266 the fiscal year. The board shall meet at any other times as it  
267 deems necessary or advisable. Reasonable notice of all meetings  
268 shall be given in the manner prescribed by the board and in  
269 accordance with state law. The presence of three (3) members  
270 shall constitute a quorum.

271           (2) The board is authorized and empowered to:

272                   (a) Investigate and evaluate each and every applicant  
273 applying for a license to practice applied behavior analysis;

274                   (b) Issue subpoenas, examine witnesses and administer  
275 oaths, and shall, at its discretion, investigate allegations or  
276 practices violating the provisions of this chapter; and

277                   (c) Adopt and, from time to time, revise any rules and  
278 regulations not inconsistent with, and as may be necessary to  
279 carry into effect, the provisions of this chapter.

280           **SECTION 7. Financing administration of provisions.** (1) The  
281 administration of the provisions of this chapter shall be financed  
282 from income accruing from fees, licenses and other charges  
283 assessed and collected by the board and from such other funds  
284 available to the board.

285           (2) The board shall receive and account for all funds  
286 received and shall keep such funds in a separate fund. Funds  
287 collected under the provisions of this chapter shall be used



288 solely for the expenses of the board and to administer the  
289 provisions of this chapter, which may include full or partial  
290 financing of continuing education programs promulgated by the  
291 board under this chapter. Such funds shall be subject to audit by  
292 the Auditor of the State of Mississippi.

293 (3) The board shall be assigned to the Office of the  
294 Secretary of State for administrative and ministerial purposes.

295 **SECTION 8. Eligibility for license.** To be eligible for  
296 licensure by the board as a behavior analyst or assistant behavior  
297 analyst, a person shall:

298 (a) Submit to the board an application, upon such form  
299 and in such manner as the board shall prescribe, along with the  
300 applicable fee and personal references;

301 (b) Certify that the applicant has not been convicted  
302 of a felony as defined by the laws of the State of Mississippi;

303 (c) Undergo a fingerprint-based criminal history  
304 records check of the Mississippi central criminal database and the  
305 Federal Bureau of Investigation criminal history database. Each  
306 applicant shall submit a full set of the applicant's fingerprints  
307 in a form and manner prescribed by the board, which shall be  
308 forwarded to the Mississippi Department of Public Safety and the  
309 Federal Bureau of Investigation Identification Division for this  
310 purpose; and

311 (d) For a behavior analyst:



312 (i) Possess at least a master's degree, or its  
313 equivalent, from an educational institution recognized by the  
314 board;

315 (ii) Have current and active certification by the  
316 Behavior Analyst Certification Board as a Board Certified Behavior  
317 Analyst (BCBA) or Board Certified Behavior Analyst-Doctoral  
318 (BCBA-D), verified by the board; and

319 (iii) Comply with such other requirements of the  
320 board.

321 (e) For an assistant behavior analyst:

322 (i) Possess a bachelor's degree, or its  
323 equivalent, from an educational institution recognized by the  
324 board;

325 (ii) Have current and active certification by the  
326 Behavior Analyst Certification Board as a Board Certified  
327 Assistant Behavior Analyst (BCABA), verified by the board; and

328 (iii) Provide proof of ongoing supervision by a  
329 licensed behavior analyst.

330 (f) All licenses issued pursuant to this section shall  
331 be for a term of three (3) years, but shall not exceed the  
332 expiration of the licensee's certification by the Behavior Analyst  
333 Certification Board.

334 **SECTION 9. Waiver of eligibility requirements.** The board  
335 may waive the examination for licensure of any applicant who  
336 presents proof of current licensure in another state, including



337 the District of Columbia, or territory of the United States which  
338 maintains professional standards considered by the board to be  
339 equivalent to those set forth in this chapter. The issuance of a  
340 license by reciprocity to a military-trained applicant or military  
341 spouse shall be subject to the provisions of Section 73-50-1.

342 **SECTION 10. Temporary licenses.** The board shall draft rules  
343 and regulations for the granting and renewal of temporary licenses  
344 for applicants who have met all eligibility requirements for  
345 certification by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board, have  
346 taken a certification examination, and are awaiting results of the  
347 examination, but otherwise meet the requirements of this chapter.

348 **SECTION 11. License denial, suspension, or revocation.** (1)  
349 The board, by an affirmative vote of at least three (3) of its  
350 five (5) members, shall withhold, deny, revoke or suspend any  
351 license issued or applied for in accordance with the provisions of  
352 this chapter, or otherwise discipline a licensed behavior analyst  
353 or licensed assistant behavior analyst upon finding that the  
354 applicant or licensee:

355 (a) Has violated the current Behavior Analyst  
356 Certification Board Professional Disciplinary and Ethical  
357 Standards, the Behavior Analyst Certification Board Guidelines for  
358 Responsible Conduct for Behavior Analysts, or other codes of  
359 ethical standards adopted by the board, or has lost or failed to  
360 renew certification by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board;  
361 or



362 (b) Has been convicted of a felony or any offense  
363 involving moral turpitude, the record of conviction being  
364 conclusive evidence thereof; or

365 (c) Is using any narcotic or any alcoholic beverage to  
366 an extent or in a manner dangerous to any other person or the  
367 public, or to an extent that such use impairs his ability to  
368 perform the work of a licensed behavior analyst or licensed  
369 assistant behavior analyst; or

370 (d) Has impersonated another person holding a license  
371 issued under this chapter or allowed another person to use his  
372 license; or

373 (e) Has used fraud or deception in applying for a  
374 license provided for in this chapter; or

375 (f) Has accepted commissions or rebates or other forms  
376 of remuneration for referring clients to other professional  
377 persons; or

378 (g) Has allowed his name or license issued under this  
379 chapter to be used in connection with any person or persons who  
380 perform applied behavior analysis services outside the area of  
381 their training, experience or competence; or

382 (h) Is legally adjudicated mentally incompetent, the  
383 record of such adjudication being conclusive evidence thereof; or

384 (i) Has willfully or negligently violated any of the  
385 provisions of this chapter.





386           (2) The board may recover from any person disciplined under  
387 this chapter the costs of investigation, prosecution, and  
388 adjudication of the disciplinary action.

389           (3) Notice shall be effected by registered mail or personal  
390 service setting forth the particular reasons for the proposed  
391 action and fixing a date not less than thirty (30) days nor more  
392 than sixty (60) days from the date of such mailing or such  
393 service, at which time the applicant or licensee shall be given an  
394 opportunity for a prompt and fair hearing. For the purpose of  
395 such hearing the board, acting by and through its executive  
396 secretary, may exercise all authority granted to conduct  
397 investigations and hearings pursuant to Section 6(2)(a) and (b) of  
398 this act. At such hearing the applicant or licensee may appear by  
399 counsel and personally on his own behalf. On the basis of any  
400 such hearing, or upon default of applicant or licensee, the board  
401 shall make a determination specifying its findings of fact and  
402 conclusions of law. A copy of such determination shall be sent by  
403 registered mail or served personally upon the applicant or  
404 licensee. The decision of the board denying, revoking or  
405 suspending the license shall become final thirty (30) days after  
406 so mailed or served unless within that period the licensee appeals  
407 the decision to the Chancery Court of Madison or Rankin Counties,  
408 pursuant to the provisions hereof, and the proceedings in chancery  
409 shall be conducted as other matters coming before the court. All  
410 proceedings and evidence, together with exhibits, presented at



411 such hearing before the board in the event of appeal, shall be  
412 admissible in evidence in the court.

413 (4) Nothing in this subsection shall be interpreted to  
414 prohibit the board from immediately suspending any license prior  
415 to a hearing under subsection (3) of this section, when in its  
416 sole discretion the suspension is required for the instruction,  
417 safety or well-being of any member of the public.

418 (5) Every order and judgment of the board shall take effect  
419 immediately upon its promulgation unless the board in such order  
420 or judgment fixes a probationary period for applicant or licensee.  
421 Such order and judgment shall continue in effect unless upon  
422 appeal the court by proper order or decree terminates it earlier.  
423 The board may make public its order and judgments in such manner  
424 and form as it deems proper.

425 (6) Suspension by the board of a license issued under this  
426 chapter shall be for a period not to exceed one (1) year. At the  
427 end of this period the board shall reevaluate the suspension, and  
428 shall either reinstate or revoke the license. A person whose  
429 license has been revoked under the provisions of this section may  
430 reapply for license after more than two (2) years have elapsed  
431 from the date such revocation is legally effective.

432 (7) In addition to the reasons specified in subsection (1)  
433 of this section, the board shall be authorized to suspend the  
434 license of any licensee for being out of compliance with an order



435 for support, in compliance with the procedures set forth in  
436 Sections 93-11-151 through 93-11-163.

437 **SECTION 12. Procedure and fees for renewal.** (1) Except as  
438 provided in Section 33-1-39, every applicant for license or  
439 renewal pursuant to this chapter shall pay to the board a fee  
440 determined by the board, but not to exceed:

441 (a) Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00), in addition to  
442 the cost of obtaining the criminal history record, for behavior  
443 analysts; and

444 (b) One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00), in addition to the  
445 cost of obtaining the criminal history record, for assistant  
446 behavior analysts.

447 (2) Individuals licensed pursuant to this chapter shall  
448 apply for renewal every three (3) years, or upon renewal of  
449 certification by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board, have  
450 current certification by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board  
451 verified by the board, and present evidence of the satisfactory  
452 completion of continuing education requirements as determined by  
453 the board. The board shall issue a renewal of the license for a  
454 term of three (3) years to any licensee complying with the  
455 requirements of this section.

456 (3) A lapsed license under this chapter may be renewed  
457 within a period of two (2) years after the lapse, upon payment of  
458 all fees in arrears and verification by the board that the  
459 applicant is currently certified by the Behavior Analyst



460 Certification Board. An individual wishing to renew a license  
461 that has been lapsed for more than two (2) years shall be required  
462 to reapply for licensure.

463 **SECTION 13. Duty to register behavior technicians.** Licensed  
464 behavior analysts and licensed assistant behavior analysts must  
465 register with the board all behavior technicians providing  
466 services under their supervision. The licensed behavior analyst  
467 or licensed assistant behavior analyst shall update the board of  
468 the termination of supervision as required by the board.

469 **SECTION 14. Offenses and penalties.** Any person who violates  
470 any provision of this chapter shall, upon conviction, be guilty of  
471 a misdemeanor and shall be punished by a fine of not more than One  
472 Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) or imprisoned in the county jail for  
473 a period not exceeding six (6) months, or both.

474 **SECTION 15. Fees deposited in special fund.** All fees  
475 collected by the board under this chapter and any penalties  
476 collected by the board for violations of this chapter shall be  
477 deposited in a special fund hereby created in the State Treasury  
478 and shall be used for the implementation and administration of  
479 this chapter when appropriated by the Legislature for such  
480 purpose.

481 **SECTION 16.** Section 1 of this act shall be codified as a new  
482 section in Chapter 9, Title 83, Mississippi Code of 1972.  
483 Sections 2 through 15 of this act shall be codified as a new  
484 chapter in Title 73, Mississippi Code of 1972.



485           **SECTION 17.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
486 and after July 1, 2015.

